

2012 MAPLE SUGARING SEASON



As winter arrives, the Meesing Sugarbush sits quiet and empty. It won't be long, however, until the EE staff heads to the Sugarbush to begin the Maple Sugaring Season.

2011 was a wonderful year weather-wise to make syrup and at our Sugarbush it was a record breaker. We produced 43 gallons of sweet maple syrup and had great turnouts for all of our programs.

We hope you can make plans to join us this season and enjoy the sweet taste of pure maple syrup. Our 35th Public Maple Sugaring Day will be held Saturday, March 3, 2012, from 10am - 3pm. The day will feature a tour of the Sugarbush including stops to learn about Native American and early pioneer methods of making maple syrup, our evaporator process and methods of identifying and tapping a maple tree. After the tour, everyone will get a chance to taste some of our syrup on freshly made pancakes. Cost: \$5/adult and \$3/children under 12; **all members of the EE Center and all tree sponsors attend free of charge.**

We'll be sponsoring a **special day for scout groups on Saturday, March 10, 2012.** Programs can be scheduled between 9am - 2pm and are open to any level of scouts and their families. Cost: \$5/adult, \$3/scouts and children under 12 and includes our syrup on freshly made pancakes. **Pre-registration is required by Wednesday, March 7, 2012.**

Dates set for programs in the Sugarbush are Thursday, February 23 through Friday, March 16. All groups interested in scheduling a tour should call the Center to set aside a time block. Each program takes 1 ½ to 2 hours and includes learning about maple sugaring from the earliest methods used by Native Americans to present day collection/evaporation techniques. The group will also tap a maple tree and take home a sample of sweet maple syrup. Cost: \$3/participant, spaces fill up fast, so please register early. The Sugarbush is located 5.5 miles north of Marshalls Creek on Creek Rd. For more information call (570) 629-3061, Mon. through Fri. from 8am to 4:30pm.

Sponsor a Maple Tree

In 2011 eighty five different groups, families or individuals sponsored trees in our Sugarbush. These sponsorships raised over \$2,000 which was used to help pay the expenses for our group tours of the Sugarbush. We are hoping that in 2012 even more people will help us by sponsoring a tree. We tap around 200 trees each year, so there are plenty available.

For \$25/tree each sponsor receives 1 pint of our fresh maple syrup, a handsome certificate, free admission to our Public Day Program on Saturday, March 3, 2012, for up to four people and a map showing the location of your tree in our Sugarbush. Don't miss this opportunity to become involved with one of our most popular programs. Call the office or complete and return the Sponsor Form below by Friday, February 24, 2012 to become a sponsor. A tree sponsorship also makes a great gift!



Checks should be made payable to:
Monroe County Conservation District
(M.C.C.D.)

Your Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

If Gift, Recipient's Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

How many trees would you like to sponsor? ____ (\$25 per tree)

Please return to: Monroe County Environmental Education Center
8050 Running Valley Road
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Each year 200 maple trees are tapped in Meesing's Sugarbush. Please become part of our sugaring program by sponsoring a maple tree this year!